



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Taekwondo Instructor Sentenced to Prison for Child Sex Abuse

A 50-year-old taekwondo instructor was sentenced today to state prison for sexually abusing female students, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Bruce Marrs sentenced Marc Scott Gitelman of Las Vegas to four years, four months in state prison and ordered the defendant to register as a lifetime sex offender.

On Sept. 8, a jury found Gitelman guilty of three felony counts in case KA106849: oral copulation of a person under 18, unlawful sexual intercourse and lewd act upon a child.

Deputy District Attorney Kelsey McKeever-Unger, who prosecuted the case, said at the time of the crimes, Gitelman was a top ranked taekwondo instructor. He had his own school and taught at community centers and at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

According to the prosecutor, between 2007 and 2013, Gitelman traveled with students for tournaments throughout California and Nevada.

In May 2010, as well as September and October of 2011, the defendant sexually molested two female students at separate times in Los Angeles County, the prosecutor said. Their ages ranged between 15 and 16 years old.

In January 2014, two of the victims filed a complaint about Gitelman and the sexual abuse with USA Taekwondo, the national governing body for the sport in the United States.

Several months later, the same victims and a third additional victim notified authorities about the sexual assaults. Following the victims' accounts, authorities located Gitelman in Nevada and he was arrested in connection with the crimes.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Special Victims Bureau.

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## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.